Claim Amendments

1. (currently amended) A method of filtering an audio stream between a caller in a communication network and a call destination, sent to ~~an~~ the caller's audio-capable device comprising the steps of:

~~receiving~~ intercepting the audio stream from the call destination at an intelligent network node in the communication network;

identifying at least one portion of the audio stream for removal; ~~and~~

removing the at least one portion of the audio stream resulting in a filtered audio stream; and

sending the filtered audio stream to the audio-capable device.

2. canceled

3. canceled

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of identifying further comprises the step of determining that the at least one portion of the audio stream contains music.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of identifying further comprises the step of determining that the at least one portion of the audio stream contains speech.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of determining further comprises the step of recognizing that the at least one portion of the audio stream that contains speech matches a template of speech that is stored in a memory.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of saving in the memory via service provisioning the template of speech to be filtered from the audio stream.

8. (original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of detecting a signal from the audio-capable device, and

storing as a template of speech in a memory the at least one portion of the audio stream that is temporally associated with the signal.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 in which the signal is a switch hook signal.

10. (original) The method of claim 8 in which the signal is at least one key pad tone.

11. (original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of determining that a gap in speech within the audio stream exceeds a pre-provisioned limit.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of routing the filtered audio stream to at least one other audio-capable device of a plurality of audio-capable devices.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the step of routing further comprises the steps of querying a database having at least one pre-provisioned address associated with the at least one other audio-capable devices,

receiving the at least one pre-provisioned address in response to querying the database, and

sending the filtered audio stream to the at least one other audio-capable device associated with the at least one pre-provisioned address from the database.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the step of routing further comprises the step of receiving an indication of the at least one other audio-capable device in response to an audible query.

15 – 22 canceled

23. (currently amended) An apparatus in an intelligent network node in a communication network, that filters an audio stream between a caller in the communication network and a call destination, comprising:

a receiver for receipt of the audio stream from the call destination;

a controller coupled to the receiver that identifies at least one portion of the audio stream that was originally sent to the receiver; and

a filter coupled to the receiver and the controller that removes the at least one portion of the audio stream resulting in a filtered audio stream.

24. canceled

25. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the controller identifies the at least one portion of the audio stream contains music [[.]]

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the controller identifies the at least one portion of the audio stream contains speech.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a memory coupled to the controller, having at least one template of speech to be filtered from the audio stream.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the memory having the at least one template of speech is populated upon initialization of the apparatus.

29. (new) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of: providing the communication network with a switch; recognizing at the switch the number called by the caller, and in response routing the call to the intelligent network node.

30. (new) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of placing the call to the call destination with the intelligent network node.

31. (new) The method of claim 29 further comprising the steps of:

providing the intelligent network node with a service node having a voice connection to the switch; and

placing the call to the call destination with the service node.

32. (new) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

providing the communication network with a switch;

the caller placing the call to the call destination;

the caller sending an instruction to the switch to route the call to the intelligent network node.

33. (new) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the communication network includes a switch which receives the call to the call destination, the apparatus further comprising:

a service control point in the intelligent network node having only a signaling connection to the switch;

a service node having a signaling connection to the service control point and a voice connection to the switch; and

the service node responsive to the service control point to complete placing the call to the call destination.

34. (new) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a sender for sending the filtered audio stream to the caller.